

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1-9. (Canceled)

10. (Currently Amended) A prostatic stent-catheter system for draining fluid from the bladder and through the prostate after prostate treatment, comprising:

- (a) a stent comprising a body member including a distal terminating end, a proximal end portion, and a lumen extending within the body member, the body member sized for placement substantially within the prostatic section of the urethra with the distal terminating end located completely proximal of the external sphincter; and
- (b) a connecting segment comprising an elongated body member including a distal end located outside of a patient's body, a proximal end releasably ~~coupled~~ joined to the distal terminating end, and a lumen which extends within the elongated body member and aligns with the lumen of the body member of the stent when the proximal end of the elongated body member of the connecting segment is coupled to the distal terminating end of the body member of the stent to form a single lumen through the prostatic stent-catheter system.

11. (Currently Amended) The prostatic stent-catheter system according to claim 10 wherein the stent further comprises a retaining member extending from the proximal end portion of the body member of the stent, wherein the retaining member is capable of holding the body member substantially within the prostatic section of the urethra, and the retaining member comprises a proximal end defining a ledge ~~structure~~ for receiving a pushing device.

12. (Currently Amended) The prostatic stent-catheter system according to claim 10 wherein the stent further comprises a retaining member extending from the proximal end portion of the body member of the stent, wherein the retaining member is collapsible and expandable, and the

retaining member comprises a proximal end defining a ledge structure for receiving a pushing device.

13. (Previously Presented) The prostatic stent-catheter system according to claim 12 further comprising:

- (a) a pushing device slidably receivable by the prostatic stent-catheter system, the pushing device including an insertion end and an external end, the pushing device sized to allow the insertion end to contact the retaining member of the stent while the external end remains outside the patient's body; and
- (b) a handle secured to the distal end of the connecting segment, the handle including at least one opening to allow fluid drainage out of the handle, and a mechanism, the mechanism being attached to the pushing device to allow a physician to control the position of the pushing device within the lumen of the connecting segment and the lumen of the stent.

14. (Previously Presented) The prostatic stent-catheter system according to claim 13 wherein moving the mechanism on the handle:

- (a) to a first position proximally extends the pushing device resulting in the collapse of the retaining member of said stent;
- (b) to a second position proximally retracts the pushing device resulting in the expansion of the retaining member of said stent; and
- (c) to a third position proximally retracts the pushing device resulting in the absence of contact between the pushing device and the retaining member of said stent.

15. (Previously Presented) The prostatic stent-catheter system according to claim 13 wherein the insertion end of the pushing device is straight.

16. (Withdrawn) The prostatic stent-catheter system according to claim 13 wherein the insertion end of the pushing device is curved.

17. (Withdrawn) The prostatic stent-catheter system according to claim 10 wherein the stent further includes a self-expanding, biocompatible material and a large pore mesh design.

18. (Canceled)

19. (Currently Amended) A method of placing a prostatic stent-catheter system, comprising the steps of:

- (a) providing the prostatic stent-catheter system which comprises:
 - (i) a stent comprising a body member including a distal terminating end, a proximal end portion, and a lumen extending within the body member, the body member sized for placement substantially within the prostatic section of the urethra with the distal terminating end located completely proximal of the external sphincter; and
 - (ii) a connecting segment comprising an elongated body member including a distal end located outside of a patient's body, a proximal end releasably ~~coupled~~joined to the distal terminating end, and a lumen which extends within the elongated body member and aligns with the lumen of the body member of the stent when the proximal end of the elongated body member of the connecting segment is coupled to the distal terminating end of the body member of the stent to form a single lumen through the prostatic stent-catheter system;
- (b) inserting the prostatic stent-catheter system into the patient's urethra;
- (c) positioning the stent substantially within the prostatic section of the urethra;
- (d) monitoring fluid drainage through the stent and the connecting segment, and out of the distal end of the connecting segment located outside of the patient's body;
- (e) decoupling the connecting segment from the stent; and
- (f) withdrawing the connecting segment completely from the urethra and patient's body.

20. (Previously Presented) The prostatic stent-catheter system according to claim 10 wherein the stent comprises one or more protuberances to aid retention of the body member substantially within the prostatic section of the urethra.

21. (Previously Presented) The prostatic stent-catheter system according to claim 10 wherein the body member defines one or more side openings in communication with the lumen.

22. (Currently Amended) The prostatic stent-catheter system according to claim 13 wherein the pushing device further comprises a ~~structure~~flange for engaging the ~~ledge~~structure defined by the proximal end of the stent.

23. (Currently Amended) The prostatic stent-catheter system according to claim 10 further comprising a coupling means for detachably ~~coupling~~joining the connecting segment to the stent.

24. (Previously Presented) The prostatic stent-catheter system according to claim 23 wherein the coupling means comprises a tubular body adapted to fit within the lumen of the connecting segment and the lumen of the stent.

25. (Currently Amended) A prostatic stent-catheter system for draining fluid from the bladder and through the prostate after prostate treatment, comprising:

- (a) a stent comprising a body member including a distal terminating end, a proximal end portion, and a lumen extending within the body member, the body member sized for placement substantially within the prostatic section of the urethra with the distal terminating end located completely proximal of the external sphincter; and
- (b) a connecting segment comprising an elongated body member adapted to extending through the external sphincter to maintain the external sphincter open and including a distal end located outside of a patient's body, a proximal end releasably ~~coupled~~joined to the distal terminating end, and a lumen which extends within the elongated body member, the connecting segment.

26. (Previously Presented) The prostatic stent-catheter system according to claim 25 wherein the stent further comprises a retaining member extending from the proximal end portion of the body member of the stent, wherein the retaining member is collapsible and expandable.